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PATENT
Attorney Docket No. 018880.0120

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of:)	
)	
J. Donald HILL <u>et al.</u>)	Group Art Unit: 3738
)	
Application Number: 09/987,976)	Examiner: Thomas C. BARRETT
)	
Filed: November 16, 2001)	Confirmation No. 7910
)	
For: AUTOMATIC SUTURE FIXATION)	
APPARATUS AND METHOD FOR)	
MINIMALLY INVASIVE CARDIAC)	
SURGERY)	

STATUS INQUIRY

Commissioner for Patents
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

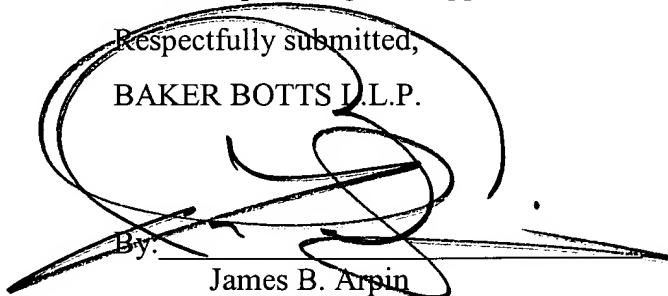
Applicants respectfully request that the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office (PTO) inform Applicants' representative of the status of the above-captioned patent application.

Respectfully submitted,
BAKER BOTTS L.L.P.

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